

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03

ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-02 NSC-05 AID-05 IGA-02

OMB-01 EB-07 MC-02 /084 W

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P R 181407Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8978

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 08447

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, TU, GW

SUBJECT: TURKEY'S INTEREST IN ACQUIRING TF-104G

REF: STATE 119867

1. AS INSTRUCTED REFTEL, AN EMBASSY OFFICER MET WITH FOREIGN OFFICE NATO OFFICE DIRECTOR DANNENBRING ON MAY 17 AND WITH FMOD POLITICAL-MILITARY AFFAIRS DIRECTOR MAJOR GENERAL BRANDT ON MAY 18. WE LEFT NON-PAPERS WITH BOTH BASED ON REFTEL.

2.H DANNENBRING, WHO RECENTLY TOOK OVER THE NATO DESK, WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE BACKGROUND OF THE TF-104G PROBLEM. HOWEVER, HE SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO THE U.S. REQUEST AND BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH US.

3. IN DISCUSSING THE POSSIBILITY OF THE FRG PROVIDING SOME TF-104G'S TO TURKEY WHICH MIGHT BE OF STRAIGHT COMMERICAL ORIGIN, GENERAL BRANDT EXPLAINED THAT THIS WAS A MISUNDERSTANDING BY THE U.S. SIDE. HE SAID HIS STAFF HAD ADVISED HIM THAT THE GERMAN AIR FORCE HAD ORIGINALLY PROCURED 137 TF-104G'S OF WHICH 113 WERE STILL
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IN SERVICE. HOWEVER, ALL HAD BEEN PURCHASED IN THE

UNITED STATES THROUGH THE FMS PROGRAM.

4. THE GENERAL CONTINUED THAT THE FRG WOULD CONSIDER THE U.S. REQUEST VERY CAREFULLY AND WOULD BEGPN THE NECESSARY STAFF WORK IMMEDIATELY. GENERAL BRANDT EXPLAINED HE WAS NOT NOW IN A POSITION TO SAY WHETHER THE AIR FORCE HAD A REQUIREMENT FOR ALL OF THE AIRCRAFT STILL IN THE INVENTORY. THE GENERAL SAID THAT THE FRG'S RESPONSE WOULD BE COORDINATED WITH THE FOREIGN OFFICE.

5. COMMENT: BOTH DANNENBRING AND BRANDT EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE TIMING OF THE EXPECTED PASSAGE OF THE U.S. LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD PERMIT US TO RESUME FMS TRANSACTIONS WITH TURKEY. ACCORDINGLY, THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING GUIDANCE ON THIS QUESTION, EVEN IF ONLY OF A HIGHLY TENTATIVE NATURE, FOR PASSING TO THE GERMAN OFFICIALS.
HILLENBRAND

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